

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE
ON
HEALTH POLICY**

Thursday, December 13, 2007

9:00 a.m.

Room 519 House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Health Policy was called to order by the Chair.

Members present: Reps. Angerer, Simpson, Clack, Corriveau, Coulouris, Donigan, Hammon, Robert Jones, Valentine, Wojno, Gaffney, Marleau, Ball, Calley, Robertson.

Members absent/excused: Reps. Byrum, Hune, Green.

Representative Simpson moved to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2007 meeting. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

The Chair laid HB 5526, HB 5527, HB 5528, and HB 5529 before the committee.

HB 5526 Angerer Income tax; checkoff; contribution designation for autism research fund; establish.

HB 5527 Angerer Insurance; health care corporations; coverage for certain treatments related to autism; provide for.

HB 5528 Ball Income tax; other; autism research fund; create.

HB 5529 Ball Insurance; health; coverage for certain treatments related to autism; provide for.

Ann Breznai of Autism Speaks, Stefanie Hines of Farmington, Steve Schwartz of the Michigan Association of School Psychologists, James Carr of Western Michigan University, and Sally Bloch of Birmingham testified in support of HB 5526, HB 5527, HB 5528, and HB 5529. Ms. Breznai also submitted written testimony. Questions and discussion among committee members followed.

Representative Simpson moved to report HB 5526 with recommendation. **The motion prevailed 15-0-0.**

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Angerer, Simpson, Clack, Corriveau, Coulouris, Donigan, Hammon, Robert Jones, Valentine, Wojno, Gaffney, Marleau, Ball, Calley, Robertson.

Nays: None.

Pass: None.

Representative Robertson moved to report HB 5528 with recommendation. **The motion prevailed 15-0-0.**

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Angerer, Simpson, Clack, Corriveau, Coulouris, Donigan, Hammon, Robert Jones, Valentine, Wojno, Gaffney, Marleau, Ball, Calley, Robertson.

Nays: None.

Pass: None.

Representative Simpson assumed the Chair.

Randy Nunez and Kimberly Maddox-Reihl of the Autism Society of Michigan, and Sally Johnson of Jackson, and Kristan Buege-Miller of Eaton Rapids testified in support of HB 5526, HB 5527, HB 5528, and HB 5529. Ms. Maddox-Reihl and Ms. Johnson also submitted written testimony.

Representative Angerer resumed the Chair.

Stephanie Harlan and Justin Harlan of Berkley testified in support of the bills. Questions and discussion among committee members followed.

Brian Sydnor of the Office of Financial and Insurance Services testified and indicated a neutral position on HB 5527 and HB 5529.

Andrew, Carolyn, and Nicholas Gammicchia of Shelby Township testified in support of HB 5526, HB 5527, HB 5528, and HB 5529. Mr. and Mrs. Gammicchia also submitted written testimony.

Lori Swan of Williamston testified in support of HB 5526, HB 5527, HB 5528, and HB 5529. Ms. Swan also submitted written testimony.

Barbara Byers of the Autism Society of Washtenaw County testified in support of HB 5526, HB 5527, HB 5528, and HB 5529. Ms. Byers also submitted written testimony.

Amy Zaagman of the Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards testified in opposition to HB 5527 and HB 5529. Ms. Zaagman also submitted written testimony. Questions and discussion among committee members followed.

Nadine Nosal of the UAW International Union, Larry Horwitz of the Michigan Health Purchasers Coalition, and Amy Shaw of the Michigan Manufacturers Association testified in opposition to HB 5527 and HB 5529. Ms. Nosal and Mr. Horwitz also submitted written testimony. Questions and discussion among committee members followed.

Representative John Espinoza testified in support of HB 5526, HB 5527, HB 5528, and HB 5529.

The following individuals submitted cards in support of HB 5526, HB 5527, HB 5528, and HB 5529, but did not wish to testify:

Aaron Tabor of Citizens Alliance to Uphold Special Education.
Robert LeFevre of Macomb Intermediate School District.
Rick Szczygalski of Autism Speaks.

Bill Kandler of the Mental Health Association in Michigan submitted a card indicating the organization has no position on HB 5526, HB 5527, HB 5528, and HB 5529.

The following individuals submitted cards in support of HB 5526 and HB 5528, but did not wish to testify:

Larry Steckelberg of the Michigan Department of Treasury.
Christine Shearer of the Michigan Association of Health Plans.

Charlie Pryde of Ford Motor Company submitted a card in support of HB 5526, but did not wish to testify.

The following individuals submitted cards in support of HB 5527 and HB 5529, but did not wish to testify:

Robin Berlin of Grand Rapids. Ms. Berlin also submitted written testimony.
Heidi Scheer of Commerce Township. Ms. Scheer also submitted written testimony.

The following individuals submitted cards in opposition to HB 5527 and HB 5529, but did not wish to testify:

Wendy Block of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Block also submitted written testimony.

Deidra Wilson of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.
Amanda Radaz of the National Federation of Independent Business.
Bill McMaster of Taxpayers United Michigan Foundation.
Jack Minore of the Michigan AFL-CIO.
Charlie Pryde of Ford Motor Company.
Samantha Jones of the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce.
Jared Rodriguez of the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce.
Mike Batterbee of the Small Business Association of Michigan.

Representative Donigan moved to excuse the absence of Representatives Byrum, Hune, and Green. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

There being no further business before the committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

Representative Kathy Angerer, Chair _____

Dan Stump, Committee Clerk
House Health Policy Committee, (517) 373-5795